Appl. No.: not yet assigned

Patent Docket No: P0957R1C1

Preliminary Amendment dated April 16, 2004

## **Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

## **Listing of Claims:**

- 1. (Original) A method of treatment of allergic asthma in a patient comprising administering to the patient a maintenance dose of an IgE antagonist and, optionally, a loading dose of the IgE antagonist.
- 2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the maintenance dose is repeated at intervals of about 1 to about 90 days.
- 3. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the maintenance dose is repeated weekly.
- 4. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the maintenance dose is repeated biweekly.
- 5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the IgE antagonist is an anti-IgE antibody.
- 6. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein the antibody is chimeric.
- 7. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein the antibody is humanized.
- 8. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein the antibody is a human antibody.
- 9. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the antagonist binds to soluble IgE and blocks the binding of IgE to the IgE receptor on basophils.
- 10. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein the antibody binds to soluble IgE and blocks the binding of IgE to the IgE receptor on basophils.
- 11. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the loading dose is administered before onset of asthma symptoms.
- 12. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the loading dose is administered after the onset of asthma symptoms.
- 13. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the loading dose is greater than the maintenance dose.
- 14. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the antagonist is administered in a formulation comprising a buffer, a salt, optionally, a polyol, and optionally, a preservative.
- 15. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein the antagonist is freeze-dried, then reconstituted before administration.

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16. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the maintenance dose, and optionally, the loading dose reduce the concentration of free IgE in the patient's serum to less than about 40 ng/ml.

- 17. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the maintenance dose of antagonist is about 0.001 to 0.01 mg/kg/week/baseline IgE IU/ml.
- 18. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the maintenance dose, and optionally, the loading dose, results in a total serum concentration of antagonist of about 1 to 10 times greater than the patient's total serum IgE concentration.
- 19. (Original) A method for treating allergic asthma in a patient comprising administering to the patient a dose of IgE antagonist averaging about 0.001 to 0.01 mg/kg/week IgE antagonist for every IU/ml baseline IgE in the patient's serum.
- 20. (Original) A method of reducing the late asthmatic response in a patient comprising administering to the patient a maintenance dose of an IgE antagonist and, optionally, a loading dose of the IgE antagonist.
- 21-39. Canceled